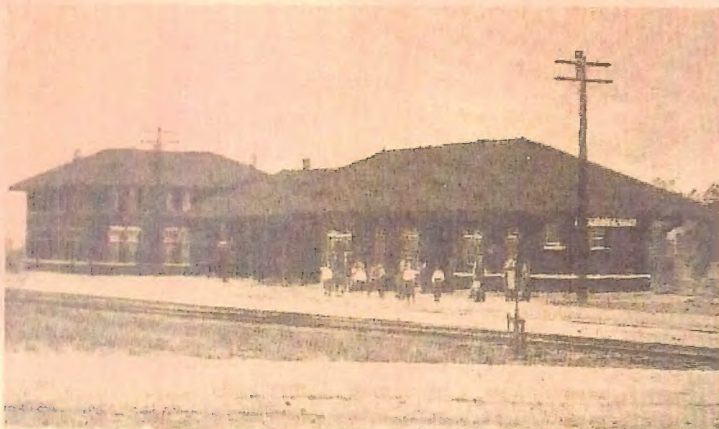


# IN THE BEGINNING



*Missouri Pacific Depot and Eating House  
Yates Center, Kansas*

**Published Quarterly By  
Woodson County Historical Society  
Yates Center, Kansas  
Vol. 17 - No. 66**

## IN THE BEGINNING

Vol. 17-No. 66

April, 1984

Lester A. Harding, Editor

### Editor Notes —

While quite a few of our subscribers to this quarterly have responded to the red mark in this space, there are still quite a few that have not.

\* \* \* \* \*

Our cover picture this time is the old Missouri Pacific Depot and Eating House in Yates Center. The depot was built in 1910, and was demolished in February, 1984, the brick dealer tore the building down for its fine brick and tile roof. The old depot had not been used much for several years and while it looked good on the outside, it had deteriorated badly on the inside.

It is believed that the Eating House and Hotel was built in 1911. It was built by the Van Noy, who had a chain of these eating houses along the railroads. The Van Noy did not keep the Hotel for very long. We believed that a man named Paxton purchased it. The name for awhile was the Interstate Hotel.

The MO. P. then purchased the hotel and changed the name to Flor De Sol - Flower of the Sun. We have never learned just when the different owners had the Eating House and Hotel. The building stood there for perhaps, twenty-five or thirty years—we have no date of when it was torn down.

The 1917 Junior-Senior Banquet was held in here when it was the Van Noy.

There has been much sentimental talk and reminiscing about the old depot, but it was going down before most people realized it.

During World War 1, troop trains going through Yates Center would pull off on a siding so its passengers could eat at the Van Noy.

It is thought that Harry Welch was the last operator of the Flor De Sol Hotel.

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## IN THE BEGINNING

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Yates Center, Kansas

\$4.00 per year

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\$1.00 per copy

**WOODSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**Organized March, 1965**

The Woodson County Historical Society met for their regular meeting with a 6:30 dinner, on Tuesday evening, January 24, 1984, at the 107 Inn. There were 36 present for the dinner.

The business meeting was called to order by the president, W.K. Stockebrand, and several subjects concerning the Museum were discussed. In the absence of the Secretary, Esther Lewis, Vice-Pres., Faye Hibbard acted in her place.

The program was presented by Ron Call, Magistrate Judge of Woodson County telling of the many different kinds of records that are kept in the courthouse, and some of the court proceedings.

A meeting was scheduled for the Administrating Board to meet at the Museum, on January 30. However, this meeting was postponed because of bad weather.

## IN MEMORIAM

Flossie Curtis 92 December 5, 1983

Mrs. Curtis was a Charter Member of the Woodson County Historical Society, and was one of the first six Directors of the organization. She attended regular until her health failed her.

John A. "Delbert" Erker 79 February 5, 1984

Mr. Erker had not lived in Woodson County for many years but with his wife Claire were Life Members of the Woodson Co. Historical Society.

Ray F. Butler 84 February 9, 1984

Ray was born in Oklahoma, but both of his parents had family ties in Woodson County, and moved to Woodson in 1923. Ray had been a member of the Woodson County Historical Society for several years and attended the meetings until his health failed him.

Most of the work has been finished on the new addition of the Museum. New aquisitions are coming in to help fill up the new building. Tile flooring will be layed over the cement floors over the two back rooms.

## Join and Support

WOODSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Life Membership \$25.00	2	Regular \$2.00 a year
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## ODDS and ENDS — 1899

FOR SALE - 10 acres of nice young timber land on which is a splendid stone quarry, stone from two inches to four feet in thickness. The land is suitable for a garden, nursery or poultry farm. Also business lot on the square and farms.

Abner Yates, Real Estate Agent

\* \* \* \* \*

Charles Landis sold his trotter to Geo. Lewis last week for two cows and \$15, George sold the mare the next morning to Geo. Sisson for \$75.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ed Fernel has moved back to Yates Center and is driving the bus for T.L. Reid. Rafe Faler, who has been the bus driver, will haul rock for the new courthouse.

\* \* \* \* \*

H.L. Hendricks, M.D. Physican and Surgeon. Office at St. James Hotel, Piqua, Kansas. Calls answered day or night.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Surprise School in Belmont township taught by Mr. A.T. Ibbetson closed with an excellent entertainment on last Monday night. The house was filled with a large audience that gave close attention to the declamations, essays and dialogues. After conclusion of this program Prof. Epperson, who was present with his steropticon gave a fine exhibition of geological views. Mr. Ibbetson is one of our best teachers and his worth is appreciated in that district.

\* \* \* \* \*

COMING AGAIN TO YATES CENTER — Three months free.

Dr. H.G. Williams, the distinguished Japanese Throat and Lung Surgeon, Eye and Ear Expert and Dr. Helen E. Lee, the noted specialist, who have enjoyed such wonderful success in Japan, Europe, New York and this state, will again be in Yates Center, Woodson House, on every four weeks hereafter.

They have experience in treating consumption, sleeplessness, brain and nervous exhaustion, paralysis, neuralgia, headaches, fits, St. Vitus Dance, cancers, tumors, skin diseases, including freckles, pimples, ulcers, salt rheum, also the heart, stomach, and kidney diseases, nervous disability, confusion of ideas, aversion to society, loss of memory and energy. Diseases of the eye and ear are quickly cured by an original and never-failing treatment. Catarrhal deafness is positively cured by their Japanese method. Dr. Helen E. Lee gives special attention to the diseases of the ladies. The Dr. can be consulted at her parlors in the Woodson Hotel.

### **THE CLAUS and HENRY H. PETERS FAMILY —**

Claus Peters was a native of Schlesburg-Holsteirn, Germany, being born there in June, 1833. His father's name was also Henry. Claus learned the carpenter trade in Germany. He also served in the Danish army for 1 ¼ years. In Sept. 1866, he came to America. Going first to Leavenworth and then to Woodson County. He filed for his claim in 1872, and in 1874 received the Patent for 80 acres, being the west 80 acres of the northeast quarter of Sec. 14, Twp. 25, Range 16, with Cherry Creek winding across the south end of it.

On the north end of the 80 acres he built a small log house 12 x 14, the required house for the homestead.

On Sept. 7, 1867, Claus Peters was married to Miss Margaret Kuse, who was also a native of Germany. They were the parents of three children, namely, Mary who died at the age of 18. Maggie W. who married August Goedeke, and Henry Herman who was born Sept. 8th, 1875. The mother Maggie died in 1899.

Claus Peters was very active in the Lutheran denomination and was instrumental in the building of the St. Pauls Lutheran Church of Owl Creek. This church was built less than two miles to the south of the Peters home. The log cabin was replaced with a two story frame house.



**Henry H. Peters and wife Ida Faye Meyers Peters. Taken on their wedding day, March 23, 1902.**

## **HENRY HERMAN PETERS —**

Henry Peters was born on the homestead of his parents, six and a half miles due east of Yates Center. He was born about the same time that Yates Center first became a town, September 7, 1875. His parents were Claus and Margaret (Kuse) Peters.

Henry attended the rural school near his home, and the Humboldt Lutheran School.

On March 23, 1902, Henry Peters was married to Ida Faye Meyers of Yates Center. She was a daughter of Henry G. and Sarah Ann (Howard) Meyers. Their home was in the west 80 acres of the southeast quarter of Sec. 11, across the road from the Claus Peters farm was. They were the parents of two sons Leland who was born, Dec. 1, 1902 and died in September, 1925. Harold was born in April, 1905, and died in December, 1918. The boys were struck with a strange malady, causing both boys to go blind and an early death. After the loss of their two sons Henry and Ida Peters adopted two nieces, Clarabell Anita and Lottie Lucille Mabe. The mother of Clarabelle and Lottie was Ollie Meyers Mabe, a sister of Mrs. Peters.

Henry H. Peters became quite a large shipper of baled hay and grain from the little siding on the Mo. Pacific Railroad which was about two miles north of his home. He had built two large barns to store hay, and both barns were burned. He had a set of scales and a small office there at the siding called Athens. Also pens for livestock were built.

Mr. Peters was active in county politics, being elected to the office of County Commissioners.



**The Peter's Boys — Leland sitting, Harold standing.**



Clarabell Anita and Lottie Lucille, the two nieces that Henry and Ida Faye took into their home were graduates of the Yates Center High School and both taught several years in the county. Lottie served as County Superintendent of Public Instruction for two terms. Lottie married Maynard L. Stockebrand, May 25, 1943. They were the parents of three children. David, Henry H., and Sandra, and an adopted daughter Henri.

Clarabell married Elmer Oehlert. They had one son, Robert, and an adopted daughter Barbara.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### ODDS and ENDS — 1913

TORONTO - Dr. Morrison of Neosho Falls, has located permanently in Toronto and will occupy the office vacated by Dr. Lee.

\* \* \* \* \*

The basketball team of the Toronto High School went to Quincy Friday afternoon for a game and were defeated in a score of 36 to 3. There were about thirty in number and in charge was the teacher, Miss Burtch. The trip was made possible by Marion Charbineau, who furnished a good stout mule team and hay rack.

\* \* \* \* \*

Hall Isett is now permanently located in the Commercial Hotel and indications are promising that Toronto will have the best hotel we have had for quite a good many years.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### YATES CENTER NEWS — May 23, 1919 -

Lieut. James Hodgeden Smith, the Fredonia aviator, who spent two days in Neodesha, taking folks joy riding at \$10 per, may have to give up some of his dough. Smith has been sued for \$10,000 damages by N.J. Earl, of Yates Center, Father of Clifford Earl, a boy, who was riding with Smith in an airplane during an exhibition flight at Yates Center, in which the plane fell. Young Earl sustained slight injuries about the face and chin when the plane dumped him on the roof of a barn. Smith and Clarence Messenger, another boy who was riding with them, was uninjured.

The machine was badly wrecked and the roof of the barn demolished.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dr. W.H. Spencer's new Buick Six was stolen from his barn sometime Tuesday night, and up till this morning no trace of the thieves had been found. Dr. Spencer carried something over \$1300 insurance.

## THE LAST OF THE PRODUCE HOUSES IN YATES CENTER AND THE PEOPLE WHO OPERATED IT.

A produce house was a place of business where the farmers brought produce of poultry, eggs and cream to sell. At one time there were several 'produce houses' in Yates Center.

The place of business we will tell about also sold baby chicks, along with different brands of poultry and baby chick feeds. This place of business sprang up on the east side of the square under the name of "Taylor Hatchery". The main place of business for this produce place was at lola.

In 1935, a young fellow by name of Seldon Rogers, who was a large, good-natured fellow, with the nickname of 'Tiny' came to Yates Center from lola as manager of the Taylor Hatcheries, starting in Yates Center at that time.

In 1938 Seldon Rogers was married to Miss Gladys Kress, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Kress. In the next few years, Seldon and Gladys built quite a large trade in produce buying and selling baby chicks and feed.

An advertising folder that they put out for 1959 is one we are using for this story.

### TAYLOR HIGH QUALITY CHICKS

#### New Spring Prices

100% PULLORUM TESTED . . . . . Pullets 95% Guaranteed

	As Hatched	Pullets	Cox
White Leghorns			
Large Type English	13.95	30.95	2.00
Black Australorps			
Barred Rocks			
New Hampshire Reds	13.95	26.95	7.00
Production Reds			
White Rocks			
Del-Hamps	13.95	22.95	14¢ each
Vantress-Hamps			
Leg-Austras			
Austra-Whites	13.95	28.95	5¢ each
Hamp-Whites			
Production Whites			

Imperial Matings in all the above breeds — 2¢ per chick added

Assorted Heavies . . . \$12.50 per 100  
 BROILER TYPE CHICKS — Assorted All Breeds . \$10.95 per 100



## IN 1959

ASSURE your chicks Livability and Health with the Feeds that are guaranteed - with Q-B Chick Starters

***Your dealer has a fresh stock on hand now.***



### ***Mr. & Mrs. Seldon Rogers***

Gladys and Seldon 'Tiny' as they appeared on one of their working days. The Taylor Hatchery was the last of the many poultry and produce houses that were operating in Yates Center at that time.

Many farmers changed their way of living, by quit milking cows and selling cream, quit raising chickens, for a flock of hens to sell eggs. This poultry house closed in Dec. 1966. Seldon and Gladys both started working for the Woodson County Co-op in Jan., 1967.

After working for the co-op, five and a half years they both retired. Tiny spent his spare time raising flowers. He passed away in April, 1978.

Both Seldon and Gladys held memberships in the Woodson County Historical Society. At the present time Gladys is the Society Treasurer.

Seldon Rogers was an expert when it came to culling the non-layers from your flock.

## THE BAUERSFELD FAMILY —

It is usually in a family story to start off with the father of the family but in this story we will start off with the mother.

Wilhelmina Mollnow was born April 11, 1824, at Opperdort, Germany. In 1851-she was married to Jacob Opperman in that province in Germany. They were the parents of a daughter, Minnie (Wilhelmina). Mr. Opperman did not live long after their marriage.

Four years later, 1856, Wilhelmina Opperman married John Frederick Bauersfeld, who was born Oct. 1819 at Nordhausen, Germany. Mr. Bauersfeld had four children by a previous marriage. Namely, Fritz, Lottie, Johanna, and Minnie.

Frederick and Wilhelmina were the parents of four children, Henrietta Theresa, Charley, Guenther, August Bauersfeld.

Minnie Opperman came to America about 1873 coming to Woodson County. That same year she was married to Charles H. Weide, who by that time was becoming a leading rancher and stockman. They were the parents of eleven children. The story of this family will be separate.

Frederick and Wilhelmina Bauersfeld embarked to America in 1881, coming direct to Woodson County. With them were their four children and 3 of 4 children of Mr. Bauersfeld from his first marriage. Our story will just tell of the last four children.

Charles H. Weide evidently knowing of the family of his wife were coming to America as he purchased the southeast quarter of Sec. 23, Twp. 23, Range 14, on July 26, 1880. This was the farm of Wm. Graybeal, and with Duck Creek cutting the farm in two pieces.

As they arrived here the Bauersfeld family moved to this farm. However, the father of the group, John Frederick Bauersfeld died on Sept. 21, 1881, just a few months after coming here. Shortly after coming here Wilhelmina was converted and joined the Evangelical Church at Turkey Creek, we presume that Frederick did also. He was buried in the Askren Cemetery as the Turkey Creek Cemetery had not been started.

When this family first came here Guenther who was 21 years old when coming, worked at the C.H. Weide stock farm for awhile. On January 14, 1882, Mr. Weide deeded the farm on Duck Creek over to Guenther Bauersfeld for the same amount he gave for it.



**“Grandma” Wilhelmina Bauersfeld, who at the time of her death, July 14, 1916, had 26 grandchildren and 22 great grandchildren.**

\* \* \* \* \*

1-Guenther was born at Heinrode, Germany June 24, 1859, where he received his education. He also worked at the carpenter trade. In August, 1887 he was married to Martha Schreiber. Their children were, Karl E. and Fred E. A daughter died in infancy. Moved to Yates Center 1913.

2-Henrietta Theresa, only daughter of Frederick and Wilhelmina, was born in Germany, May 29, 1861. At the age of 19 she came to America. She was married to Wm. M. Weide, July 16, 1884. They were the parents of nine children, Elmer, Albert, Arthus, Amanda, Wallace, Martha, and Fred. Two died in infancy.

3-Charles Bauersfeld, who married Eva Switzer. They made their home just east and south of Batesville. Their children were, Harry, Leonard, Minnie and Olive.

4-August Bauersfeld married Emma Troyer. Their children were, Ruth (Stocker), Nina (Conger), a son Paul and Alma.

## ODDS and ENDS —

THE YATES CENTER NEWS, YATES CENTER, KANS. April 18, 1899. R.H. Trueblood, Editor and Publisher.

### The Barn Raising —

Wednesday the 19th about two dozen men of the neighborhood gathered at Mr. Baxter Baker's to assist in raising the barn. They began early to raise the large tiers and as some of the ladies had accompanied their husbands and father's they watched with deep interest (lest the timbers should fall) as Mr. Woodruff first with a now ready and a he-o-heave, up would go the large stringer to its place soon to be fastened securely by a few of the brave ones who risked being so high, for the wind did blow pretty hard. Soon the pleasant sound of the dinner bell rang upon all ears and filing into the dining room the men beheld two large well filled (to overflowing) tables. The dinner was grand with enough for as many more hungry men, showing Mrs. Baker had nobly done her part. Someone did forget the pie but never the less it wasn't needed and one or two of the worthy gentlemen had promised to 'wait' but they seemed to forget it until they were fast devouring Mrs. Baker's well prepared dishes.

But enough of the dinner, there was still more work to do and all worked faithfully until nearly four o'clock.

\* \* \* \* \*

The war with Spain is all over, and friendly relations exists between the two countries. The Philippine trouble about ended, and still the Farmers Alliance Insurance Company leads all other companies in giving farmers cheap, reliable and safe insurance.

D.M. Ray Agent. Yates Center, Kansas

I also have a second hand buggy and a fine, No. 1 cow for sale.

\* \* \* \* \*

Smoke Crandall & Shaefer's Club Friend and Little Joker Cigar. Made in Yates Center. They are the best .

\* \* \* \* \*

Hale Chellis and Miss Nettie Fergus were married Wednesday at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. S.E. Fergus, Rev. Cullison officiating. They left on the excursion train for Chetopa on a short wedding trip. Hale owns a farm west of town where they will make thier future home.

\* \* \* \* \*

Maud Lamb will give an elocutionary entertainment at Crandall April 29th, at Parallel May 3rd and at Zion Church in Belmont Twp., Saturday May 6th. Admission ten cents.

## THE JOHN SCHEIBMEIR SR. AND FAMILY —

John Scheibmeir was a native of Germany, coming to America as a young man, and settling near Westphalia, Kansas. Here he met and married Miss Katherine Seckler, who was also a native of Germany. They were married in 1884. Their older children were born on a farm there.

In 1892 when their oldest son John, Jr. was about eight years old the family moved to a farm about two miles west of Piqua. Where the rest of the family were born.

John, Sr. and Katherine, were the parents of seven children namely, John, Pauline and Anthony, twins; Mary, Dora, Herman and Leo.

John, Jr. who we will just refer to as John was married to Miss Edith Trout. It is this family that we tell the most about so we will not list their children here.

Anthony never married.

Herman married Mae Henson. Mae taught several terms of school over the county. They lived on a farm west and north of Piqua, before moving to Yates Center to retire. They had two sons, Paul and Billy.

Leo was a letter carrier in Kansas City, then retiring to his farm near the old home place, where he made a residence of the old McClanahan school house. Later moving back to Kansas City. Leo married Jewell King. They had three daughters, Juanita, Katherine and Patricia.

Neither of the three daughters of John and Katherine -Pauline, Mary and Dora ever married. Two of them were registered nurses.



**Standing in back row — L to R. John Scheibmeir, Pauline, Anthony, Mary and Herman. Sitting — John, Sr., Dora, Katherine with Leo in front.**



John Scheibmeir, was born near Westphalia, Kans. 1886, where his parents, John and Katherine were living on a farm. When he was about six years old the family moved to a farm to the west of Piqua, where John spent the rest of his life.

On November 25, 1914, John Scheibmeir was married to Miss Edith Trout, whose parents, George and Eliza (Skinner) Trout were early settlers just to the south of Neosho Falls.

On this same year John purchased 80 acres of land just two miles west of Piqua. It was on this farm that their nine children were born and raised.

Edward J. born 6-8, 1916 - Pauline D. b. 4-28, 1918 - Eugene G. b. 4-11, 1920 - Lloyd F. b. 6-21, 1922 - Emma Mae b. 6-2, 1925 - Bernice E. 10-20, 1927 - Donald J. b. 9-26, 1929 - Gerald L. 8-9, 1932 - Marita b. 4-12, 1934.

All children are living except Gerald "Jerry", who died at the age of 21 years.

Edward J. married Velda Stewart, 10-12-1938; Pauline D. married Carl Diebolt, 5-10-1939; Eugene G. married Ida Tilla Hefren, 12-26-1942; Lloyd F. married Pearl Henry, 4-20-1944; Emma Mae married Marvin Lott, 7-8-1943. After his death Emma was married to Robert Frazer, 11-12-1960; Bernice E. married Al Heiman, 12-26-1946; Donald J. married Teresa Sicka, 12-27-1950; Marita married Loy West, 5-28-1952.

\* \* \* \* \*

The picture at the opposite page was taken at the time of the 50th Anniversary of John and Edith Scheibmeir in November, 1964.

Starting at the left in the picture in the back row; Lloyd, Donald, Edith, Rev. Father I.J. Rohr, John, Edward and Eugene. The four girls in front row, Bernice, Marita, Emma Mae and Pauline.

John Scheibmeir passed away in Sept. 1969.

Mrs. Edith Scheibmeir still lives on the 'home' place along with visits and help from not only her children and spouses, but also 50 grandchildren. 78 great grandchildren and three great, great grandchildren. She is 87.



## ODDS and ENDS

Oscar Rogers, shoe cobbler had his shop just to the north of the Woodson Hotel. He had a son Jack Rogers. A circus came to town that had a tight rope artist with it. Watching the tight rope performer awhile Jack Roger got the idea of trying that stunt. A rope was stretch from the top of the old courthouse at the northeast corner of the square to a pole across the street in the northeast corner of the courtyard about where the well is at present. With a balancing pole Jack walked the rope across over the street. John Green, a part Cherokee Indian went along beneath Jack to catch him if he fell.

A daughter of Oscar Rogers-Lizzie was a footracer. She married Billy Pruitt.

\* \* \* \* \*

August, 1903 - A very pretty and interesting game of baseball was played at Yates Center between the Y.C. team and the Singleton Greys, of Quincy, Toronto and Benedict. The score was 8 to 1. Batters for Y.C. were Gualt, Fezler and White. For the Greys, Singleton and Singleton.

\* \* \* \* \*

September 6, 1877 - Twelve men armed to the teeth from Longton, Kans. were at Yates Center, last Tuesday in charge of one solitary horse thief. It appears that he had stolen a horse at Longton and escaped to northwest Woodson County. They had caught up with him and the man in charge said that they were compelled to hang the prisoner twice before he would reveal the whereabouts of the horse. With this confession the party went into the Turkey Creek country and found animal in possession of party who had traded for it. They secured the animal and returned home.

\* \* \* \* \*

July 31, 1879 - D.O. Luse of Humboldt was charged with horse stealing. Sheriff Hodson of Allen County sent to Yates Center for help in catching. The horse thief seemed to be headed toward Fredonia. Abe Smith, one time sheriff and horse thief chaser was called in. Smith and D.A. Crist of Woodson County, sighted Luse in a carriage about four miles from Fredonia and gave chase. Luse jumped from the carriage and started running, with Abe Smith giving chase. Luse turned and started shooting at Smith, firing two shots. One of these cutting the skin on his face. D.A. Crist then started firing at Luse thus saving Smith. Luse had ten bullet wounds.

\* \* \* \* \*

1500 carloads of hay shipped out of Yates Center, 1898.

## THE JESSE W. MULLENIX FAMILY —

We do not know too much about the very early life of Jesse Wilman Mullenix, but he was born in Illinois, coming to Kansas with his parents, brothers and sisters. They were living near Olathe in Johnson County, Kansas. The first we hear of them there was when Jesse, age 18, and his older brother George W. who was 22, enlisted in Company A, of the 15th Regiment, Kansas Volunteer Cavalry. Their address was given as Shawnee-Johnson Counties. They enlisted Aug. 14, 1863 when this company was organized.

The Headquarters for Co. A, 15th Reg. was at Humboldt, Allen Co., Kansas. Jesse's records show him to be a guard doing escort duty from Ft. Leavenworth, to the Sac - and Fox Indian Agency. Said escort was to guard paymaster. He was discharged at Ft. Leavenworth, Oct. 19, 1865. Following the Civil War, the Mullenix family moved to Humboldt City, Allen County.

About this same time the George W. Shigley family moved to Humboldt. There were two Shigley girls that we will mention in this story. They are Mary Amanda and Minnie.

Jesse W. Mullenix was married July 7, 1870 at Independence, Kans. to Mary Amanda Shigley, who was born near Lafayette, Indiana. Their first two children Charles and Laura Belle were born near Independence.

Sometime, evidently the latter part of 1876, Jesse W. and family came to the Big Sandy community. They moved into a small, crudely built log cabin a short distance from the creek, on a branch near the center of Sec. 18, Twp. 26, R. 15.

Here the rest of their children were born; Effie May, born Mar. 14, 1877; Edward Grant, born Apr. 8, 1878; John Allen, born 1881; Walter Lewis, 1883; William Elmer, born 1887; Emma Pearl, Sara Letta, born 1892.

In the meantime Jesse had built another house or rather had a Mr. Kelley who lived on Big Sandy to build it.

When Jesse received his pension from the army he had quite a lot of back pay coming so he built a new barn and bought a surrey with a fringe on top. His horses used to pull the surrey with were Tom and Salem.

The 1895 Kansas State Farm Census from Belmont Township gave the following -

Jesse Mullenix age 56 born Illinois  
Amanda M. Mullenix wife age 45 born Indiana  
Effie M. Mullenix daughter age 18 born Kansas  
Edward G. Mullenix son age 17 born Kansas  
John A. Mullenix son age 14 born Kansas  
Walter L. Mullenix son age 12 born Kansas  
William E. Mullenix son age 8 born Kansas  
Emma P. Mullenix daughter age 5 born Kansas  
Sara Letta Mullenix daughter age 3 born Kansas

Jesse W. had 80 acres, (the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , of the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 18, Twp. 26, Range 15). 25 acres cultivated well and stream. Land value \$2,000, machinery value \$100, 22 acres of corn, 1 acre of spuds, 1 acre of millet. On hand 25 bushel of corn, made 200 pounds butter, sold 65 dollars of apples, 40 dollars of cherries, 8 pounds of honey-2 dollars. Had 6 horses, 3 mules, 7 cows, 7 hogs and 1 dog.

The Mullenix family like so many families left Woodson Co. although there are several buried in the Belmont Cemetery in Woodson County.

The Editor of "In The Beginning" first became interested in this family of Mullenix several years ago when a tall man came to our house who lived in Naches, Washington, and told that he was researching his family. His dream came true when he finished his search and had a book of over 360 pages bound into a fine well bound book names of hundreds of Mullenix and related families. The first time he was here I showed him a copy of Vol. 3, No. 10 of "In The Beginning" where I told about a Jesse W. Mullenix had a post office and small store in his house on Big Sandy. The following is included in this book.

From "In The Beginning", a quarterly published by Woodson County Historical Society, Lester A. Harding, Editor; "On August 24, 1900, Nelson Davis established a post office in his home, giving it the name of Conger. About two years later Davis sold out and left. The post office was then taken to the home of Jesse Mullenix, who kept a small store in his home about 2 miles west from the Mt. Pleasant school. Mullenix kept the post office until it was discontinued Oct. 30, 1904.

Wesley Mullenix donated a copy of this book to the Yates Center Public Library. The Editor has permission to use any part of this book for use in our quarterly.

Minnie J. Shigley, was a sister of Mary A. Shigley who was the wife of Jesse W. Mullenix. Minnie was married to Joseph Ross. While ironing clothes with a gasoline iron her clothing caught fire and was the cause of her death, in September 1900, at the age of 33. Joseph E. Ross the youngest child living at that time went and stayed with his Uncle Jesse and Aunt Mary Mullenix in their home on Big Sandy for several years. Joe as he was always called was about 8 years old when he went to the Mullenix home.

On the 27th of June, Joe was married to Mary M. Kay. Joe and Marie had one daughter, Marie Louise, born April 21, 1919. On the 2nd of April Louise was married to Chester E. Stevens.

## **OWL CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5 —**

This school district in later years was known lovally as "Stonepile". However, we do not believe that the stone building was the first school as the stone schoolhouse was built in 1872. We believe that school was held in Dist. #5, as early as 1865 or earlier. We have a copy of the "Report of District Clerk of County Superintendent of Public Instruction for School District No. 5", County of Woodson, Kansas.

Number of children residing in the District over five and under the age of twenty-one years. Males 20 - Females 23 - Total 43. Number who have attended school during the year Males 9 - Females 10 - Total 19. Fall term commenced Aug. 8th ended Oct. 6th. Average daily attendance - 9. Time taught for fall term was 1 month and 18 days, by Mr. S.M. Stansbury. Wages paid Mr. Stansbury was \$35 per month.

Spring term commenced in April and ended in July. Term taught by Mrs. J.A. Tobias. Wages paid Mrs. Tobias were \$25 per month for the 1 month, 3 weeks.

*Amount raised by Subscription for  
Teachers wages \$77.*

*Amount expended Teachers Wages  
for Fall and Spring Term \$111.25*

*Amount expended for building Schoolhouse \$—  
Amount expended for furnishing Schoolhouse \$—  
This 12th day of September A.D. 1866*

*Jacob G. Seitz  
District Clerk*

The latter part of this report indicates that they had no schoolhouse in 1866. School was evidently in someone's log cabin or in an abandoned cabin.



**Picture of the Dist. No. 5 teacher and pupils 1906.**

**Back row, L. to R. Lilly Belle Brown, Teacher-Lula Denney, Beula Fitzmaurice, Stella Fitzmaurice, Blanche Sloan, Louise Pribbernow, Almont Wagner, Clifford Bennett. Center row, L to R. Opal Sloan, Florence Ellis, Arlie Sloan, Katie Fitzmaurice, Katie Orth, Edith Ellis, George Denney, Clyde Ellis. Top row, L to R. Charles Stroh, Cecil Denney, Robert Ellis, Robert Bennett, Clarence Orth, Phillip Fitzmaurice, Orval Sloan.**

S.M. Stansbury and Mrs. Tobias are the only teachers we have for the 1860 and 1870's. The first teacher records for the county start in 1881. Some teachers may be missing from this list.

John Culver taught 2 terms, 1881-82; J.W.G. McCormick, R.E. Brown, Nellie Stewart, Jacob Ragle, Belle Withers, Bea Clark, Mrs. L. Thoroughman, Tressa Clark, Sofia Stange, Mary McCormick, Anna Wilkinson, A.G. Dickenson, Celesta Malin, Lilly Belle Brown, Dora Harmon, Mollie Everett, Mrs. Lilly B. Brown, Frank Steffen, Harry H. Brown, Lilly B. Brown, Alta Leonard, Claire Carnahan, David Megill, Emma Reed, Flora Wagner, Mabel Toedman-1920-21, Irma Fulhage, Maude Nelson, Eva French, Ruth Krueger, May Balzer, Florence Laymon.



The old "Stonepile" schoolhouse that was condemned and torn down in 1927, after serving the Owl Creek community for 54 years. A new frame building was built to replace it in the same year, 1927. The teacher of the last term at "Stonepile" was Florence Laymon. She was also the first teacher in the new schoolhouse. Florence Laymon was married to Lawrence Sicka. She taught many a school term in her life time ending in the Yates Center schools. Florence and Lawrence had two sons, Robert and Donald.





**This picture of old 'Stonepile' was taken in 1909, with Harry H. Brown as teacher. The following pupils went that year but are not identified. Clifford and Robert Bennett, Katie and Clarence Orth, Charles Stroh, Clyde and Glen Taylor, Daisy and Elmer Wheeler, Henry, Louise and Charley Pribbernow, Almont Wagner, Johnnie Wheeler.**

According to the Teacher's report to District Clerk, for the term of Sept. 3, 1932 till April 21, 1933, there were 24 pupils enrolled. The teacher was Emma Brownrigg. There were pupils in each of the first 7 grades. Pupils enrolled that year were; Kenneth, Roberta and Enola Strawder, Jimmie Strawder, Arlene and Kenneth Pribbernow, Don, Ralph and Raymond Scanlon, Lucille and Laverne Martin, Charles, Marjorie and Ray Alumbaugh, Elaine and Betty Starks, Floyd, Wanda and Mary Ellis, Virgil and Mildred Orth, Bobby Adams, Jessie and Bessie Hay.



## BARN SET AFIRE TO STEAL HORSES —

The scene of this story is along the Big Sandy Creek neighborhood, about a quarter mile west of the creek and three-quarter mile north of the Wilson County line.

Alonzo Long and family lived on this farm. The barn was east side of the road while the house was back off of the road to the west of the road. We do not know the exact year that this story happened, but sometime prior to 1909, and after the telephone line was built by the States family through this vicinity.

Alonzo Long suffered from rheumatism, and it kept him awake at times. One night during one of these attacks he looked out of the east window and saw that his barn was on fire so he called his boys and they ran to the barn to get the horses out, while Mrs. Long rang the line ring on the party line and alerted the neighbors who came quick as they could. Long and boys and some of the closest neighbors were fortunate in getting the horses all out. The horses were tied to a fence to the south of the barn, and then going back to try to save the saddles and harness, etc.

Then Long went to have a look at his horses and discovered that they were not his horses for his horses were of good stock and these horses were old worn out almost useless horses. He called his boys and friends to come and look at the horses that they had taken out of the barn. The neighbors all gathered around and quickly decided that some thieves had made the trade and set the barn on fire to burn the worthless horses and get away with the good ones.

Someone spoke up and said that they had heard horses going by their house just before they came to the fire, so again the telephone came into use and another farmer reported horses passing his place during the night. A group or posse was quickly formed and the group got on the trail of the horse thieves.

Just before sunrise the posse overtook the horses and two men to the northwest of the Long farm several miles on the prairie headed for the Verdigris River. The two men were sent to the penitentiary and the horses returned to Alonzo Long.

(Another story of this event was—that a man named Guy Miller set the Long barn on fire, and said that they caught him east near Humboldt.)

## **PATRONS OF WOODSON COUNTY HISTORICAL QUARTERLY**

Milton & Virginia Schornick  
Kenneth & Barbara Stockebrand  
John V. Glades Agency  
Street Abstract Co., Inc.  
State Exchange Bank  
Self Service Grocery  
Krueger Variety & Dry Goods  
Piqua Farmer's Co-op  
Morton Equipment Co.  
Swope & Son Implement Co.  
Superior Bldg. & Supply, Inc.  
The Herring Families  
Cantrell Hay Co.,  
    Craig Cantrell  
Artex Manufacturing Co.  
J. C. Schnell  
Wilma Mark  
Yates Center News  
Gambles Hardware &  
    Home Furnishings  
Pringle Ranch -  
    J. Richard Pringle  
Atkin Rexall Pharmacy  
Campbell Funeral Home  
Glen & Zola Baker  
Piqua State Bank  
Ken Kimbell  
Steiner's Sundries

Lynn and Gail Cantrell  
Gaulding Oil Co.  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Ward  
Clyde Hill  
Kimbell Ranch-Ed. Kimbell  
Hi-Way Food Basket  
Atkin Clinic  
Blackjack Cattle Co. Inc.  
Yates Center Elevator  
Jaspers Shopping Spot  
Daly Western Supply  
Linde Barber Shop  
Campbell Plmg. & Electric  
Ted Spencer-Gen. Agent  
    Woodson Co. Farm Bureau  
Jaynes Insurance Agency  
Glenn Shaw  
Elmer E. Light  
Milton & Marcella Wrampe  
Loren & Rita Cantrell  
Al's Jewelry  
Edwin G. Reid, St. Louis, MO  
Rex Butler, Nashville, TN  
Thomas Wilson  
Bill Herman  
Abbott & Ethel Crandall  
C. L. "Matty" & Luriel Mathews